



General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 July 2009

Original: English

Sixty-third session

Agenda item 20

**The situation in Central America: progress in fashioning
a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development**

Letter dated 14 July 2009 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In Portugal's capacity as President of the Community of Democracies, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Declaration on Honduras, adopted by the Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Community of Democracies, held in Lisbon on 12 July 2009 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 20.

(Signed) Jorge **Lobo de Mesquita**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.



**Annex to the letter dated 14 July 2009 from the Chargé
d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Portugal to the
United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

Fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Community of Democracies

Declaration on Honduras

The Community of Democracies,

Expressing its grave concerns at the political situation in Honduras, a participant of the Community of Democracies, and the overthrow of its constitutionally elected President,

Reaffirming its commitment to respect and uphold the specific principles and provisions agreed to in the Community of Democracies ministerial conferences and to implement the actions thereof and, in particular, its resolve jointly to cooperate to discourage and resist the threat to democracy posed by the overthrow of constitutionally elected governments,

Welcoming the pronouncements on the matter by the United Nations General Assembly, the Organization of American States and the European Union,

Condemns the overthrow of the constitutionally elected President of the Republic of Honduras, Mr. José Manuel Zelaya, and calls for respect for democratic order, human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Calls on all relevant actors and institutions to refrain from violence and to strive to find a swift and peaceful solution to the current situation,

Expresses its support for the mediation led by President Óscar Árias, as well as by the Organization of American States and other regional efforts, and calls on all actors to facilitate these efforts, so as to allow for the re-establishment of internal democratic order.

Lisbon, 12 July 2009